



# CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

Office of Communications

703-248-5003 (TTY 711)

FAX 703-248-5146

[publicinfo@fallschurchva.gov](mailto:publicinfo@fallschurchva.gov)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## CONTACT:

**Nicole Gobbo**

**703-248-5210 (TTY 711)**

[ngobbo@fallschurchva.gov](mailto:ngobbo@fallschurchva.gov)

**Hyun June Lee**

**703-248-5101 (TTY 711)**

[hlee@fallschurchva.gov](mailto:hlee@fallschurchva.gov)

## Mary Gavin Named Deputy Chief of Police in City of Falls Church

FALLS CHURCH, VA. – City of Falls Church Chief of Police Harry Reitze today announced the appointment of Mary Gavin as Deputy Chief of Police, effective Dec. 3, 2007. As Deputy Chief, Gavin will command the Operations Division and supervise all Internal Affairs and Department personnel investigations. She will also be responsible for acquiring and monitoring grants and will make executive decisions for the Chief's office in Chief Reitze's absence.

"It is a pleasure to appoint a Deputy Chief of such caliber and outstanding performance to serve as second in command for the Falls Church City Police Department," said Reitze. "Mary has a strong record of community policing and public safety service in Arlington County and I look forward to working with her in her new role here in the City."

Gavin joins the City after 21 years with the Arlington County Police Department, most recently serving (since 2005) as Commander of the Vice Narcotics and Identification Unit responsible for all investigations affiliated with narcotics, prostitution, and gambling. Also since 2005, she has been Commander of the Identification Unit and Commander of Operations for the Rosslyn-Ballston District, responsible for coordinating all police services for that district. In this capacity, she created and led the Second District Advisory Board of business and community associations to resolve community related problems.

Through her many years of dedicated service with Arlington, Gavin worked her way through the ranks. She joined the Department in March 1986 as a patrol officer, and among her many roles she has served as training officer, instructor at the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Training Academy, school resource officer and supervisor, sergeant, lieutenant, commander of various divisions, and an active player in strategic planning.

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Harry E. Wells Building • 300 Park Avenue • Falls Church, Virginia 22046 • 703-248-5001

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She has a strong record of community policing, developing innovative policing strategies, and leading and mentoring officers. She created Arlington's first Youth Police Academy along with many other initiatives to foster strong ties between public safety personnel and the community.

Gavin played an active role in Arlington's 9/11 response. She established the staffing command for police operations, managed mutual aid requests, contributed to the published after action report for the Pentagon response, and gave presentations on lessons learned. She served as Commander of the Civil Disturbance Unit, leading officers detailed to presidential inaugurations, IMF World Bank demonstrations, and other demonstrations. She was a member of the Arlington Youth Collaborative; served on the Executive Board Committee, Law Enforcement Committee, and Budget Committee of the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area; and was chair of the Arlington Police Memorial Committee.

"I am looking forward to becoming a part of the community and culture of this unique City. I enjoy police work and appreciate the opportunity to work here," said Gavin.

Gavin earned a bachelor's degree in Law Enforcement from Eastern Kentucky University and has completed numerous professional development courses, among which include completion of the Council of Governments-George Washington University Certified Public Manager Program in 2004 and graduation from the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy in 2005. She has been recognized with many public service awards for her innovation and commitment to public safety.

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